



Colorado Liberty

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1983

Jerry Van Sickle – Candidate for Boulder City Council

By Betty Beverly

A cautiously optimistic Jerry Van Sickle is campaigning right down to the wire in the Boulder City Council election. Of sixteen candidates vying for the six seats, Jerry is considered to be among the top ten serious contenders.

By election day, November 8th, he hopes to have distributed his campaign literature to every single-family dwelling and commercial establishment in Boulder. He has advertised on radio and in local newspapers, aided by significant contributions from supporters. He also spoke to several civic organizations, presenting his "Freedom and Justice" message. He estimated that he has received a 70% favor-

able response to his identification of himself as a libertarian.

Jerry's main point has been that decisions affecting the future of Boulder have been decided on a case-by-case basis, rather than by a firm set of laws or guidelines. This can lead to favoritism and influence-peddling in city government. The individual citizen loses the right to fairness and justice from elected officials.

Whether he wins or not, Jerry feels he has presented important issues to the electorate and eventually politicians are going to have to listen to the libertarian point of view.

Richardson Garners 9% of Loveland Council Race Vote

By Betty Beverly

Keane Richardson, running as a libertarian candidate for the at-large seat in the Loveland City Council election, came in fourth out of five candidates with 9% of the vote. The election, held November 1, attracted a light voter turn-out, with less than 10% of the registered voters electing Nancy Kain by a 49% margin over the other four candidates.

Richardson expected to do considerably better than his 9% showing, particularly since the Loveland **Daily Reporter-Herald** gave him a back-handed compliment by editorially castigating him for his "simplistic philosophy." According to the **Herald**, believing that the "only legitimate concern of the government is to 'protect individual liberties' " would "waste valuable time in the council and detract attention from important concerns." The editorial also quotes Richardson as saying he would "absolutely oppose any tax

increase in Loveland."

Nancy Kain, backed by Loveland special interest groups, ran an expensive, highly visible campaign. Since no financial disclosure statements were ever printed in local papers, it would be difficult for the average voter to ascertain which groups she represented, although the business community promised, after losing significantly in the last election, that they would get their own candidate elected this time.

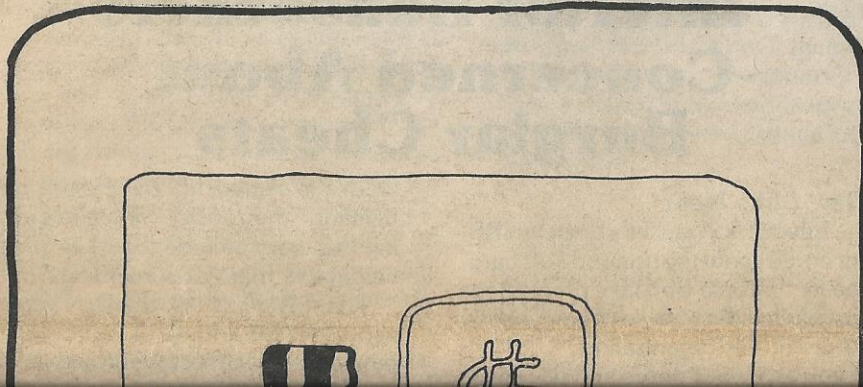
Richardson says he is glad he ran, if only to give the people of Loveland a real choice in the election. His candidacy also exposed the electors to libertarian philosophy. He feels that the true impact on the citizens of Loveland will become quickly apparent when the City Council passes its proposed mill levy increase. The voters will discover that there is no such thing as "free" boating on Lake Loveland or "free" senior citizen recreation centers.

Libertarian Announces for U.S. Senate, Federal Reserve System Attacked

The following is a statement from Stormy Mon, a Libertarian candidate for the U.S. Senate who is not seeking the Libertarian Party nomination.

Abolishing the personal income tax is my major concern, but the whole system is crumbling, as it should. Now the next step is to expose the counterfeiting scam

revolted in 1776 to gain independence from this kind of central authority. That victory has been sold out and betrayed by "well meaning" people like Ronnie, Billy, Nancy, Gary . . . and the judiciary.





**Would you like some?
I made them myself.**

Civil Disobedience Victory: Post Office Desperado Avoids Even Slap on Wrist

Ed Leeper challenged the awesome might of the United States Government and won. Last October he publicly violated the law requiring that privately owned mail boxes be used only by the U.S. Post Office. He delivered about 1700 campaign flyers without stamps in rural mail boxes. The maximum penalty for each offense is \$300. On the 25th of October, a U.S.

District judge fined him only \$200 and then suspended the sentence on the condition that he not do it again.

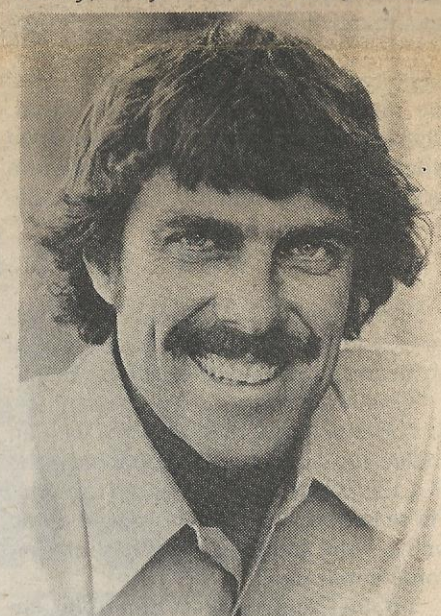
If the American people resemble Gulliver, tied down by thousands of tiny Lilliputian rules and regulations, Ed Leeper has succeeded in freeing us from another one.

Abolishing the personal income tax is my major concern, but the whole system is crumbling, as it should. Now the next step is to expose the counterfeiting scam of **The Federal Reserve System**, which is a hidden tax.

It's a tax just as if the government stole our silver, and substituted cheaper copper — which if you'll look closely, has been done to the quarter. It's especially galling to have George Washington's picture on this devalued coin; he and other friends of freedom were fighting currency debasement. My opponent, Senator **Bill Armstrong** is a co-conspirator to this fraud on Americans.

But our founding mothers and fathers knew that Reagan, Armstrong and other centralized government counterfeiters would get carried away with the lure of easily printed paper money. So they built a safeguard into Article I, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution. Lt. Governor **Nancy Dick** and her accomplices are sworn to accept only money backed by gold or silver; Federal Reserve Notes are not. But she and Colorado's bureaucrazies have been bought by the lure of federal money; we are now a subsidiary, a colony of **Wash. DC.** You may recall that we

Nancy, Gary . . . and the judiciary.



Stormy Mon

Bill doesn't know any better — he's a Reagan clone — but Nancy should be aware of the problem. Her home town of Aspen was devastated by the centralized political management of silver, money and

Continued on page 8

**Colorado Libertarian Party
1041 Cherokee Street
Denver, CO 80204**

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ADDRESS CORRECTION
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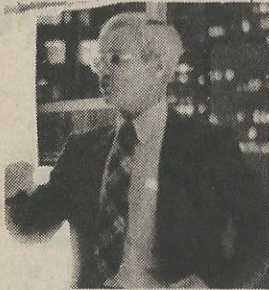
Bergland to be in Denver

David P. Bergland, the Libertarian Party Presidential candidate, will be in Denver November 15th. After a day spent in media interviews, the candidate will be feted at a dinner and cocktail party at the Holiday Inn Northglenn (I-25 at 120th). The Colorado Bergland for President Committee has arranged the cocktail party to begin at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Novem-

ber 15th. It will be a cash bar, followed by a \$25.00 per plate steak dinner with wine. Bergland will speak after the dinner.

This is a very important year for the Libertarian Party. We are basing a wide-spread, grassroots presidential campaign on the foundation of Ed Clark's Presidential race in 1980 and on the growth we experienced in the 1982 campaigns.

How to tell David Bergland from other Presidential Candidates



David



Other Candidate

David is the one who is opposed to gun laws, pornography laws, helmet laws, marijuana laws, taxes, and foreign wars. The others all favor most of these things. Good reason to VOTE LIBERTARIAN.

Information Hotline Opens

By R. W. Peterson

The R. W. Peterson Investigative Agency is instituting a program whereby you can receive a reward for information you have concerning major crimes, government mismanagement, kickbacks, impropriety or criminal conduct on the part of government officials and any information that can be developed into a newsworthy story.

The agency will pursue and investigate any leads that appear to have some validity and will protect the identity of the person contributing the information. However it should be understood that in the case of major crimes the identity of the person may have to be exposed for prosecution purposes, unless the law enforcement agency involved will agree to keep

cy. Whenever possible the name of the person furnishing the information will be kept strictly confidential.

The amount of the reward will be contingent on a number of considerations, to include, the magnitude of the case/story and the amount of information provided by the person.

The amount of the reward will be between \$100 and \$1,000 to be decided solely at the discretion of the R. W. Peterson Investigation Agency.

Any information not deemed to be valid or of significant importance will not be investigated or developed and no consideration will be paid to the person submitting the information.

So if you have an important piece of information here is your chance to see it acted upon and receive a reward for it.

Libertarian Calendar

1st Tuesday of every month the Libertarian Forum meets in the Brand Building, 203 S. Galena St., Aspen. Call 925-8292 for more information.

3rd Tuesday of every month, Boulder County Libertarian Association, 7:30 p.m., at 1913 Broadway in Boulder. Call Jerry Van Sickle for details at (h) 442-0514 or (w) 443-5578.

1st and 3rd Wednesday every month, Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m., Party Office.

2nd Wednesday every month, CLP Cocktail Party, 7:30 p.m., Party Office. Relaxed, informal, cash bar.

4th Thursday of every month, Park County Libertarians meet. Call Phil Prosser for details at 838-7693.

CALENDAR — NOV-DEC-JAN

For more information: Office — 1041 Cherokee, Denver 80204
303-573-5229 Hours: 9 am to 6:30 pm Mon-Sat

NOVEMBER

2nd	Discussion group — Public Education
9th	Cocktail Party at the office
15th	Bergland visit; call office for details
15th	Boulder group meets
16th	Discussion group — Politics vs. individual action
24-27th	Thanksgiving — Office Closed

DECEMBER

7th	Discussion Group
14th	Cocktail Party at the office
20th	Boulder group meets
17-Jan 2	Happy Holidays — CLP office closed

JANUARY

4th	Discussion Group
11th	Cocktail Party at the office

Interior Ransackers Concerned About Burglar Cheats

By Rev. Chirs Mohr

The Interior Ransacker's Society (IRS) is concerned about the rising tide of "burglar cheats," people who take precautions against having their homes plundered by members of this organization.

"If you lock your doors and windows

titudes in America. "People are getting militant," they admit. "They're developing this crazy attitude that their property belongs to them or something."

The I.R.S. is especially concerned about the radical fringe of the burglar cheat movement, which occasionally even shoots

case of major crimes the identity of the person may have to be exposed for prosecution purposes, unless the law enforcement agency involved will agree to keep the name of the person confidential. These contingencies will be discussed when the person brings the information to the R. W. Peterson Investigative Agen-

submitting the information.

So if you have an important piece of information here is your chance to see it acted upon and receive a reward for it.

The phone number to call in Denver is 399-8181. The mailing address is, R. W. Peterson Investigative Agency Box 1211 Idaho Springs, CO 80452.

We get Reprinted

One indication of the national respect for COLORADO LIBERTY is that several of our articles are regularly being reprinted.

"Communicating Libertarianism" by Ruth Bennett (March-April '83) with an addition by Jan Prince was reprinted in the BULLETIN of the LP of Ontario Canada. These two seasoned activists were doing well to write something that has international applications.

"Is Gun Control Anti-Women" by Jan Prince (July-Aug '83) was summarized in NOMOS, a libertarian magazine published in Illinois.

"Tax Protesters Not Alone" by Stormy Mon (May-June '83) was printed in THE CORRESPONDENT, a tax protest publication from Montana. "IRS Nuisance Calls" (Sept-Oct '83) has appeared in the

NEW YORK PATRIOT, THE SAMARITAN NEWS (right-wing Christian tax protest) and THE ANARCHIST NETWORK. That's quite a spread of ideologies that are interested in anti-IRS info.

But the all-time reprint champ so far is "Jury Nullification" by Stormy Mon (May-June '83). It's credits include THE JUSTICE TIMES, YOUR HERITAGE NEWS, THE LIBERTY ADENDMENT NEWSLETTER, THE NEW YORK PATRIOT, and THE NORTH CAROLINA TARHEEL. The jury veto concepts incorporated in that article have influenced court cases in several states this year, and spawned a High School Debate strategy in California that will pay dividends in years to come.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY: An expensive lady

Why did the Susan B. Anthony dollar fail? There is one essential difference between coins and Fed Notes. The government gives away Federal Reserve Notes to the Fed for the cost of printing, but expects full face value for its coins.

So the Anthony Dollar was just too high priced for our patriotic money monopolists. They were expected to pay \$1.00 for each, while printed \$1.00

notes are provided by the treasury at about 2¢ each. So Susan just couldn't compete with the printing press paper.

Reprinted from the "EPIA Society Digest" (End Poverty In America), Box 5611, San Bernardino, CA 92412 -- \$10 yr.

NO TIME TO WRITE?

The Colorado Liberty now offers a new service for people with something to say and no time to write it down. Call us at 573-5229, 9 am to 6:30 pm daily, and we will take your "letter to the editor" over the phone. Naturally, we need to keep these comments short and concise. Call! Call!

Those interested in chairing the Constitution and Bylaws committees should submit their applications at the December 18 Board meeting at 12 noon at headquarters.

lar cheats," people who take precautions against having their homes plundered by members of this organization.

"If you lock your doors and windows, install burglar alarms, or join a Neighborhood Watch organization, you're a burglar cheat, plain and simple. This just means we have to shift the burden onto honest citizens even heavier. If you keep your goods away from us, we have to break into your neighbor's home and take even more from him. This is unfair, and let me tell you, it's generating a lot of resentment among honest citizens who just let us get into their homes without fuss," said Roscoe Egghead, Commissioner for the Interior Ransacker's Society.

Members of the IRS estimate that over \$100 billion worth of furniture is sheltered by burglar alarms alone. If you count locked doors and other evasion tactics, the figure is even greater, they claim.

Why the sudden rash of "burglar cheats"? We asked several I.R.S. workers, and they agreed that it has to do with changing at-

belongs to them or something.

The I.R.S. is especially concerned about the radical fringe of the burglar cheat movement, which occasionally even shoots and kills burglars acting in the line of duty. "A lot of people don't like what we do, but someone has to do it. We're only doing our jobs. Those kooks on the radical fringe ought to be jailed for life," an angry I.R.S. agent sputtered.

In an effort to protect I.R.S. agents from burglar cheats, the I.R.S. is lobbying for tighter enforcement procedures against burglar cheats. They hope to ban burglar alarms altogether, a popular burglar haven for the wealthy. Tighter controls on who can own a deadbolt lock have also been suggested.

"The public should know that burglar cheats will not be tolerated," an I.R.S. spokesman claimed. "We want your furniture and stereos, and we want them now. We'll trash your home and throw you in jail, and if you try to stop us we'll kill you. It's that simple."

Give yourself a year-long Christmas gift: become a CLP member

Date _____ COLORADO and NATIONAL

I would like to: ☐ join ☐ renew my membership in the Libertarian Party as indicated:

Dues (per year): \$25 regular \$50 sustaining

Includes National Membership unless you instruct us otherwise.

Includes subscription to *Colorado Liberty* and the Libertarian Party NEWS

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (H) _____ (B) _____

Signature _____

(required for National and State membership.)

National and State Party memberships are separate. However, only National memberships are counted in determining each state's allotment of delegates at National Conventions.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Colorado Libertarian Party

VIEWS and NOTES

Grenada: Bringing New Meaning to "Yankee Imperialism"

By Dwight Filley

People should learn to think about the news **before** they let their knees jerk. Take those people who support the invasion of Grenada for example. Knee jerk patriots, certainly, but have they stopped to think . . . ?

The Marines were supposed to "save" the Americans on the island. But did anyone hear any cries for help? Our forces

were supposed to be responding to the pleas of neighboring states for intervention. Did anyone hear them appeal to the legal sovereign, i.e. England? Or to the U.N.? Or even to the U.S.?

Of course not. And what little there was, was so muted that we had to be told about it **afterwards**.

Reagan is acting like a spoiled child who, after pouting and whining for months, has finally gotten the war toys he wanted, and now insists on playing with them all over the globe.

Whatever small merit might be found in "preventing the spread. . . etc" is far overshadowed by the harm done. Now when the Soviets say "Yankee Imperialism," they have proof. Now every misguided left leaning guerrilla in the Western Hemisphere is madly scribbling letters to Castro and the Kremlin, saying we'll do anything you say, just send more arms so the same won't happen to us.

Now every right wing dictatorship in Latin America is eyeing its left wing neighbors and saying "America has just

shown me the correct, the moral way to deal with such troublemakers."

When will Washington learn that the U.S. is not the world's policeman, that we are grown up enough not to need a war we can win, and that foreign intervention almost never does what it's supposed to do.

Free trade and non-intervention. It worked for America 200 years ago. It works for Switzerland today, and it can work for us.

Your Views

Editor, Colorado Liberty:

Sometimes the Libertarian Party makes foolish mistakes. To me, having the Colorado LP participate in the Rocky Flats Encirclement (sponsored by the Nuclear Freeze Committee) was most asinine — and it was an action which many, if not most, Libertarian Party members did not support. I certainly did not.

The continued attack on Rocky Flats is orchestrated (for the most part) by leftists who want to destroy the military capacity of the United States. Whether this stems from an incapacitating fear of nuclear holocaust, pacifism, hatred of the U.S., or whatever, many of these people would oppose any **serious** effort to defend America — **regardless of how it was to be provided**.

Libertarians gain nothing by making alliance with such people — they define the public image and we get identified with that image.

The Libertarian Party platform calls for a national defense adequate to protect the people and property of the United States. If we want to debate what constitutes adequate defense, and how it should be provided, let's do it in a forum where our viewpoints can be heard, not

Government Equals Guns

By Dwight Filley

Now wait a minute. That can't be right. Sure cops wear guns, and soldiers carry them, but government is more than that. It's flags, and marble buildings, and elected officials. It's bureaucrats and the Post Office, and Smokey the Bear. What does all that have to do with guns?

Unfortunately for those of us who are proud to live in the "land of the free," our government, like every government on earth, does **everything** from behind the barrel of a gun.

We can thank our lucky stars that the U.S. government is more subtle about its gun wielding than say, the Soviet government, but the gun is always there, nevertheless, even though most people never see it out of its holster.

The tax collector doesn't personally carry a gun, but everyone knows if you don't pay up, you go to jail, and if you suggest that you'd rather not go to jail, you can be sure that someone with a gun, (and possibly a whole SWAT team) will show

up to escort you the slammer.

Well, OK, so taxation is ultimately enforced by guns. But what about Smokey the Bear? He seems harmless enough, like Mickey Mouse or something.

Unlike Mickey Mouse, however, who exists only because people voluntarily buy tickets to see him, Smokey exists because tax money is used to create him. Back to guns again.

Not that Smokey represents much of a threat to freedom, but he does ultimately rely on guns for existence.

And whereas voting our "leaders" in or out is far superior to some sort of dictatorship, I still have to support Smokey, and all the rest of government, even though I always vote as Libertarian as I can. Having a voice in government helps, but they still haul out the guns if my behavior isn't in agreement with what the majority dictates.

Well now, there must be **some** government function that isn't backed up by guns. Let's see . . . The Colorado State Lot-

tery! You voluntarily buy a ticket, and thereby help support the government. No guns at all.

Wrong. Remember, the state maintains a monopoly on legal gambling. If Colorado permitted other lotteries, the competitive market would reduce the profits of all lotteries, including the state's, to a normal level. If history is any guide, the state run lottery would probably run at a loss. Look at RTD, or the Post Office, or the Colorado State Fair.

So the State of Colorado forces everyone out of the lottery business but itself. If you insist on running a private lottery a cop will show up and tell you not to. We seem to be back to guns again.

Any government is run from behind the barrel of a gun. Only the free market avoids guns, except to prevent theft or assault. If you don't like so many guns pointing at you, what you should do is try to roll back government as much as possible.

Sort of like the Founding Fathers did. Or like the Libertarians are doing.

Marines Die in Lebanon — Your Tax Dollars at Work

By Patrick L. Lilly

Sunday, the 23rd of October, 1983 was a milestone day in the development of the

mass killing of such magnitude. Furthermore, it was inevitable, given the situation.

It was inevitable because the Reagan ad-

fanaticism of every "revolutionary" and nationalist group in the world. That policy has now borne its first major fruit.

a national defense adequate to protect the people and property of the United States. If we want to debate what constitutes adequate defense, and how it should be provided, let's do it in a forum where our viewpoints can be heard, not in the midst of a leftist-led "peace" demonstration.

The LP platform also opposes gun control. Imagine how these anti-nukes would react to the notion of privately-owned nuclear weapons — an option our platform would defend!

Pacifism, appeasement, anti-nuclear hysteria — these have no place in our platform, most of our membership don't support them (poll the members if you have any doubts), and the American public won't buy it. I hope the Colorado LP Board of Directors and the Libertarian Party's National Committee (which has made similar mistakes) and leaders will recognize these facts and begin to act a bit more responsibly toward defending America.

Paul Grant
Chairman

National Libertarian Party
P.S. DEFENDING A FREE SOCIETY,
from THE REASON FOUNDATION (to
be published shortly) offers some excellent ideas on a responsible approach to defense in a society based on individual rights.

Dear Editor:

In regard to the Libertarian Party's decision to support the Rocky Flats Encirclement: Libertarians should not associate with koo-koo's. The people involved in the encirclement are supported by the Russian government. If Libertarians are not going to support any government, then let's not support the Russian government, either. If the Libertarian Party wishes to support the nuclear arms freeze, then protest at the Federal Center or in Russia, not at Rocky Flats.

If the Board of Directors of the Libertarian Party does not reconsider its position, quit sending me the newspaper or any other literature. I don't want to be associated with kooks.

Darwin Dykes

continued page 8

By Patrick L. Lilly

Sunday, the 23rd of October, 1983 was a milestone day in the development of the Reagan administration's foreign policy. That was the day that a Moslem nationalist of some type donated his life to the cause of kicking the U.S. out of Lebanon by driving a truck packed with explosives into the building used as the U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut. The truck exploded on impact, leveling the building and killing roughly 230 Americans. These weren't the first American deaths since the Marines were sent to Lebanon, but it was the first

Editor's Note:

On October 15th, about ten libertarians participated in the Rocky Flats Encirclement, in keeping with the Libertarian Party Platform, which states in part, "We favor international negotiations toward general and complete disarmament down to police levels, provided every necessary precaution is taken to effectively protect the lives and rights of the American people. Particularly important is the mutual disarmament of nuclear weapons and missiles".

By Ed Hoskins

I missed you at the Rocky Flats encirclement. I missed you holding hands in defiance of government. I missed you spreading the message of non-coercion. I missed you telling the peaceful how to rid the world of its main source of violence. I missed you and was disappointed.

I probably should not have been as startled as I was at the opposition within the Colorado Libertarian Party to participation in the encirclement and to the board's qualified endorsement of it.

One argument made by supposed libertarians, though I thankfully didn't hear it first-hand, was that since the Russkies obviously favored the encirclement, we shouldn't. I propose we leave it to Soviet libertarians to worry about guilt by association with the Soviet regime. After all, in

Your Tax Dollars at Work

mass killing of such magnitude. Furthermore, it was inevitable, given the situation.

It was inevitable because the Reagan administration's foreign policy of increasing global involvement virtually guarantees — is designed to guarantee — such deaths, sooner or later. Libertarians have been warning, ever since the gist of Reagan's foreign and military policies became clear (shortly after his election), that involving American military troops on a "limited" basis in the world's political hot spots merely makes them human tripwires for escalated involvement later, hostages to the

fanaticism of every "revolutionary" and nationalist group in the world. That policy has now borne its first major fruit.

The grimmest irony of it is that the Reagan administration will probably reap a political benefit from the bombing, solidifying American public opinion behind further American military involvement in Lebanon and elsewhere around the globe. In public response to the bombing, Reagan was quick to emphasize that the Marines will not be withdrawn from Lebanon. Public opinion was quickly manipulated

Continued on page 8

Abandonment at Rocky Flats

the context of U.S. politics, the government of the U.S.S.R. must take comfort in even the most minor political discord, not to mention the platform of the Libertarian Party.

A more common argument, and a typical (bordering on boring) one for libertarians, was that since the encirclement committee wanted funds saved by the plant closure to be used to support other government programs, we therefore shouldn't be involved. This argument would suggest that if the plant were closed, and if the same funds, despite our protests at the time, were used to support government hospitals, the cause of liberty would be set back. Come now. Despite our clear qualification, on this point, to our endorsement, the encirclement committee was tolerant enough to accept our support. Whaddayasay we succeed in closing the plant as members of this coalition and fight transfer payments later as members of another? We can't remain virgins forever.

A related, and more disturbing, argument is that the encirclement, nuclear freeze, and other "peace" movements are creations of the left, and that we shouldn't risk being tainted by the association. A corollary view is that our main, if not our only, constituency is composed of conservatives, who we think are more apt to become libertarians because they think they're in favor of free markets.

I submit that, if anything, we are currently in more danger of becoming tainted by our limited association with Jim Watt and Ronnie Reagan. While petitioning at Rocky Flats and elsewhere, I have too often heard the accusation that libertarians are somewhere to the right of Attilla.

We should constantly remind ourselves and others that our libertarian ideals revolve around our opposition to the initiation of force, particularly government force. With this focus, we shouldn't fear contamination from either the right or the left. We are the party of peace as well as free markets, of individual freedom as well as responsibility.

There were indeed leftists aplenty at the Rocky Flats encirclement. Many were quite clear in their views, and clearly and openly favored the use of government force. They didn't sign Bergland's petition. Most, however, were not so thorough or established in their thinking. They simply wanted to close Rocky Flats. They hadn't yet concluded, despite the efforts of the leftists, that individual liberty and responsibility are unworthy goals. In their favor, and in contrast to many we encounter on the right, they think of themselves as idealists. I think many of them are ripe for libertarian ideas. Let's not abandon them to the left. Let's not abandon peace to the left. If we are not the party of peace, who is?

4e Telegraph — B3

RMN-9-5-83

Monday gue

have serious long-term problems that have to be solved and that we cannot afford to continue not doing anything about them. . . . I think more and more people are becoming skeptical about the government's process in getting things done. . . . More than ever before, we need a government that can get things done.

7-5-83

Coloradan new Libertarian chief

Rocky Mountain News staff and
Paul K. Grant

Rocky Mountain News staff and wire reports
K. Grant, the Libertarian
do governor

Paul K. Grant, the Libertarian candidate for Colorado governor in 1982, won the chairmanship of the national party Sunday in balloting at its annual convention in New York.

Grant, 34, of Evergreen, a self-employed manufacturer's representative, replaced Alicia G. Clark, a California businesswoman and wife of the 1980 Libertarian presidential nominee, Edward E. Clark. Alicia Clark, who the chairmanship at the 1981 convention in Denver, didn't seek re-election.

Grant began his campaign for governor in May. At the time, he was a

Grant began his campaign for the party's top job in May. At that time, he said he was campaigning at several state conventions, while his main opponent, Vernon L. Etzel of Delaware, was campaigning mostly by mail. Libertarians also nominated a businessman to a 1984 ticket with David Bergland, who was a nominee only after six months of his

...conventions, while
...Vernon L. Etzel of Delaware
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...nominee only after six
...of his

NEW YORK — California attorney
ergland won the presidential nomi
Libertarian Party during the
aturday.
gland, of Cost
own Univer
on the

California attorney David
Party during the party's convention
of Costa Mesa, Calif., defeated
University professor Earl Ravenal
on the fourth ballot, said party spokes-
man Carriel.
nd, who was national chairman of the
n Party from 1977 to 1981, ran as a
presidential candidate in 1976.

DP - 9-4-83

Libertarians Pick Bergland

The Washington Post

NEW YORK — The Libertarian Party, the nation's third-largest political party, gave its 1984 presidential nomination Saturday to David Bergland, an outspoken anti-government activist who is considered a hard-liner even by the Libertarians' stern standards.

Libertarians' stern standards. Bergland, who squeaked to a majority on the ballot at the party's national convention, would hold true to the party's unyielding calls for legalizing all drug use and weapons, honing the CIA, the IR schools.

ALBUQUERQUE JOUF

Monday, Oct. 3, 1983 Gazette Telegraph — B5

Colorado Springs

Libertarian planning campaign for Senate

By Glenn Urban
GT Staff Writer

involuntary servitude. Mon claimed
forced into involuntary servitude
made a tax collector

in court, to

called a press conference, where reporters watched as he read out a list of names of people who had written him letters. He also wrote letters to the authorities to announce the law.

Leeper is now in court, to be charged with the same offence. He is also being charged with the same offence.

Nominee

By Glenn Urban
GT Staff Writer

The Colorado Libertarian Party is off on a running start for next year behind its first announced candidacy — that of Stormy Mon of Denver, candidate for U.S. Senate.

Though known as the Libertarian among the political activists who join the party, Mon do not constitute a state because I like to get the government out of our lives.

involuntary servitude. Mon claimed he was forced into involuntary servitude by the state when he made a tax collector. He eventually got out of it.

Libertarians Pick Pres. Evergreen Man as National Chairman

1 Nominee

in "Government should be run like a business," Bergland said. "Moderation could be a good thing if it is of their own free will."

NEW YORK — The Libertarian Party, the nation's third-largest political party, gave its 1984 presidential nomination Saturday to David Bergland, an outspoken anti-government activist who is considered a hard-liner even by the party's own standards.

Bergland, who squeaked to a majority on the fourth ballot at the party's national convention here, pledged to hold true to the party's unyielding platform, which calls for legalizing all drugs, bringing all U.S. troops and weapons home from overseas, and abolishing the CIA, the IRS, the national parks, and the public schools.

The nominee, a lawyer from Costa Mesa, Calif., laughed off a suggestion that the party should moderate its stand to win support of voters aligned with the major parties. "What the hell are we doing?" he asked.

liberty" and the "ugliness" Ravenal talked about the party "relevant" to the American people.

Then, on the fourth round, a bare majority — 270 single vote to spare. Reflecting the party's size, 24 delegates cast the vote.

Things were quiet until a week ago when Gene Burns dropped out of the race. He was a personal friend of the nominee.

Paul Grant, 34, of Evergreen, was elected Sunday as national chairman of the Libertarian Party at the organization's national convention in New York.

Grant, who ran for governor against George Bush in 1982 and who was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, said he was "pleased to be part of the party."

ernment and of government and private industry.

The Denver Post

9-5-83

At least Libertarians can't be accused of inconsistency

NEARLY a year ahead of the pack, the nation's third largest political party has already held its nominating convention and chosen its candidate for the 1984 presidential race.

To call the Libertarian Party "third largest" may be stretching things a bit. Although it was on the ballot in all 50 states in 1980, it polled only 920,000 votes, compared to independent John Anderson's 5.7 million.

But Anderson's unnamed organization evaporated after the election while the Libertarian Party remains more or less permanent, if little-known, fixture on the American political scene. We predict it is fated to remain little-known. Its platform calls for, among other things, legalizing all drugs, abolishing the CIA and IRS, selling off all national parks, public schools and hospitals and bringing all U.S. troops home.

things, legalizing all drugs, abolishing the CIA and IRS, selling off all national parks, public schools and hospitals and bringing all U.S. troops home.

Amn 9-25

Libertarians the only alternative

Editor: Contrary to the viewpoint expressed in your Sept. 17 editorial, "At least Libertarians can't be accused of inconsistency," I feel the Libertarian Party will be of increasing influence, and become increasingly well-known. It is the only philosophical alternative to the Democrats and Republicans and because of this will become more viable when the public discovers the principles behind it: less government involvement in our private lives.

With the Republi-Crats has come a steady increase in the use of government to solve all problems of our society.

to terminate the Social Security System "forthwith" because "government should not be in the charity business." He would also turn all roads, bridges and dams over to the private sector and shut down municipal fire departments.

ety. Along with this has been a steady increase in government interference in our private lives, plunder of our wealth and a proportional decrease in efficiency. The only choice we have had is which party is in charge.

It is a matter of direction. Do we continue to increase government interference and inefficiency or do we redirect our national priorities toward the more efficient private sector? Only the Libertarian principles outline such change in direction.

ROBERT B. ES

Westminster

Libertarians are making headlines, and the campaigns have hardly begun.

Forced Value — American Style



By Congressman Ron Paul

People are never defrauded knowingly or willingly. This is true in all areas of economic life, but especially in the area of money. Paper money can only gain acceptance in society when force or deception are used. Real money must be something valued by those who use it. History has shown that many things have been used as money, but gold and silver have survived the test of time and proven to be the commodities which best function as money.

Today in the area of money, deception is resorted to more frequently than the actual use of force to sustain our paper money system. Legal tender laws use implied force to compel all payments to be made in Federal Reserve notes if the debtor so chooses, or if there is a settlement in court. Even though gold clause contracts are legally permissible in this country, they are not enforced by the courts. Rather, courts settle contract disputes in dollars. For this reason, gold clause contracts have less meaning than they would if legal tender laws did not exist.

Our economic problems stem from the steady erosion of our currency's value. Although the obvious effect of the depre-

not yet recovered. In 1884, things were made even worse by a court ruling in *Juilliard v. Greenman* when the court ruled that it was an extension of the power of Congress to make anything equivalent to gold even in times of peace. This justification was based on the "royal, sovereign prerogatives" that had been claimed by the kings of England under the acts of Parliament going back to Henry VIII and Elizabeth I. This decision totally ignored the Constitution and the intent of the Founding Fathers. — As far as the Supreme Court was concerned, Congress had the power to do anything it wanted with money, and therefore anything it wanted with property as well. —

In 1913, after the passage of the Federal Reserve Act, Federal Reserve notes were made interchangeable with gold and silver coin. Things continued to get worse, and by 1933 a new statute was adopted with the explicit language that "all coins and currencies of the United States (including Federal Reserve notes) are legal tender." This was necessary because gold had been confiscated from the American people. Since the law made it illegal for Americans to own gold, it was necessary for government to spell out explicitly that the notes of the Federal Reserve System were legal tender in their own right, not just because they were equivalent to gold as in 1913, but because of this new statute.

With the legalization of gold ownership and gold clause contracts in 1974 and 1977 respectively, the situation became one in which dollars are exclusively units of account (things with which you must pay taxes). If you make a contract to pay "dollars" you will be forced to pay or receive Federal Reserve notes. However, if you make contracts to pay "troy ounces," such as a barter contract, you would be entitled to the "fair market value" of troy ounces, but you would be paid in Federal Reserve notes. Because of legal tender laws, there are still serious obstacles to the development of a competing currency. It is legal tender laws that force us to use the

bushels of corn from his neighbor, farmer B. Farmer A promises to pay back farmer B in one year 100 bushels of corn, plus 10 extra bushels as interest. Both farmers voluntarily reach this agreement, because they each perceive they will gain from it. However, what if one year later farmer A repays the debt with 110 bushels of corn that are only half full? Farmer B would have been defrauded and have a justifiable claim in court for breach of contract. Farmer A deserves punishment for this fraud.

This is exactly what occurs when contracts are made in terms of a medium of exchange (money) that is being depreciated by government. If the monetary unit is diminished through an inflation of the money supply, creditors are being defrauded. If farmer B had contracted to receive \$500 instead of 110 bushels of corn in return for his loan to farmer A, and upon receipt the \$500 could only buy 50 bushels of corn, due to inflation of the money supply, farmer B would have been cheated. He would be reluctant to make future loans, unless he could receive a higher interest payment.

Inflation causes higher interest rates and lower levels of economic activity. Government uses legal tender laws to compel us to accept in payment of debt something that is depreciating in value. Morally, this is no different from forcing farmer B to accept 110 bushels of corn, each one only half full. The issue here is the failure to enforce private contracts in which debtors have agreed to pay their debts in something of real value.

Not a New Issue

Pelotiah Webster, America's first great economist, wrote an essay in 1780 entitled *Strictures on Tender Acts*. In this essay, Webster explained the evils of legal tender and paper money. His writings were an influence on the framers of the Constitution. Unfortunately, his astute observations and advice are no longer followed by those in Washington, D.C. Sadly, our

in money when their dictates contradict the common sense of men and the laws of economics. Webster states, "The credit or value or money cannot, in the very nature of the things, be supplied, preserved, or restored by penal laws or any other coercive methods. The subject is incompatible to force; it is out of its reach, and can never be made susceptible of it or controllable by it."

Yet that is exactly what we continue to try to do. The law is useless once the fraud is discovered by a significant portion of the people. Today, since only a small minority of people understand what's happening, a false trust continues to exist and the deceit of government prevails. If this were not so, and people realized the significance of the \$250 billion plus annual deficits and trillion dollar plus budgets that are staring us in the face, there would be panic. Legal tender laws are used to falsely reassure and encourage the people to continue to accept a dangerous fraud. This is not unlike the Federal Deposit and Insurance Corporation (FDIC) that "guarantees" bank deposits by promising to create an unlimited supply of money, but cannot guarantee its purchasing power.

The Federal Reserve Note

— On every Federal Reserve note it says "this note is legal tender for all debts public and private." This is an acknowledgment of the force of government which compels us to accept worthless paper as real money. It is utterly ridiculous that by the mere fact that government prints a different number of zeros on a piece of paper, that paper becomes more valuable. When this is commonly understood, Federal Reserve notes will no longer function as money. — A note is a promise to pay. If one has a note at the bank, he owes the bank money. It's a liability, not an asset. The government does not intend to pay anything of real value to us if we hold Federal Reserve notes. At one time, they were redeemable for gold and were considered lawful money. Now money is

they would if legal tender laws did not exist.

Our economic problems stem from the steady erosion of our currency's value. Although the obvious effect of the depreciation of money is rising prices, the real culprits are the Federal Reserve and the U.S. Congress. As a result of irresponsible monetary and fiscal policies, force and deceit are used to maintain the acceptance of Federal Reserve notes as money. The Founding Fathers were explicit when framing the Constitution. They limited the power of Congress to one of coining money. Furthermore, they specifically prohibited states from "emitting Bills of Credit" and making anything but gold and silver coins a tender in payment of debts. It was their intention that the federal government would not authorize or circulate paper money.

During the Civil War period it became evident that we would not follow the course outlined by our Founding Fathers. In 1870 the Supreme Court in *Hepburn v. Griswold* ruled that Congress had "emergency and war powers" to make paper dollars legal tender *during the war*. However, this did not include debts contracted prior to the Civil War. Unfortunately, in the 1871 case, *Knox v. Lee*, this position was reversed and the court ruled that Congress could make paper dollars legal tender for all debts, as part of the War Powers Act; this was retroactive. This decision proved to be a devastating blow to sound money in this country and we have

counted, but you would be paid in Federal Reserve notes. Because of legal tender laws, there are still serious obstacles to the development of a competing currency. It is legal tender laws that force us to use the government's monopoly money in payment of all our debts regardless of the terms of contract.

Under an honest monetary standard, there is no need to use force. Voluntary contract and voluntarism will suffice. All that would be needed would be rules against fraud. A responsible government certainly would not engage in the deliberate depreciation of the currency.

The Fraud of It All

Throughout history, governments with a monopoly control of the monetary system have abused this power. When societies have broken down and nations fallen into decay, two ever present maladies have been a depreciation of the monetary unit and a disrespect for private contracts. Even John Maynard Keynes, the intellectual father of monetary manipulation, wrote, "There is no subtler, or surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner which not one man in a million is able to diagnose."

The difference between outright thievery and the depreciation of the currency is indeed a subtle one. For example, consider two farmers. Farmer A borrows 100

and paper money. His writings were an influence on the framers of the Constitution. Unfortunately, his astute observations and advice are no longer followed by those in Washington, D.C. Sadly, our leaders are uninterested and uninformed as to the significance of the ideas of sound money.

The principles of sound money will not be practiced until it is understood why legal tender laws are harmful. In his essay, Webster discussed the evil of legal tender laws as they were being proposed at that time in Pennsylvania. He wrote, "The worst kind of evil, and that which corrupts and endangers any community most, is the iniquity which is framed by a law; for this places the mischief in the very spot — on the very spot — on the very seat — to which every one ought to look and apply for a remedy." — Government should exist for limited and specific purposes. It should serve to protect liberty, preserve national security, and ensure justice by punishing those who initiate force or fraud on others. The deliberate destruction and depreciation of money ought to be a crime, whether engaged in by private individuals or by government. —

In spite of Webster's astute warning, and our Founding Fathers' desire to prevent monetary destruction, we now live with the system that perpetuates the fraud of paper money. Through the persistent and deliberate depreciation of the currency, government confiscates the wealth of the people and destroys productive activity.

Force Cannot Create Value

Value can never be instilled by force. Webster discusses the value of money and points out the futility of using force: "... it (money) is no more subject to the action of force than any other passion, sentiment, or affection of the mind; any more than faith, love, or esteem . . . This confidence, this opinion, exists in the mind only, and is not compellable or assailable by force, but must be grounded on that evidence and reason which the mind can see and believe."

The value of money is found in the minds of men as they perceive the nature of that thing that is used as money. Politicians and bureaucrats cannot instill value

The government does not intend to pay anything of real value to us if we hold Federal Reserve notes. At one time, they were redeemable for gold and were considered lawful money. Now money is

It is utterly ridiculous that by the mere fact that government prints a different number of zeros on a piece of paper, that paper becomes more valuable.

based on pure fiction. The Federal Reserve note is "backed" up by collateral, but not gold or silver. The collateral they use is the debt that the Congress creates — Treasury bills and bonds. Therefore, the more government debt the Federal Reserve system purchases, the more paper money — Federal Reserve notes — they can create. When understood, the absurdity of this system is quite clear.

The Monetary Control Act of 1980 changed the definition of what the Federal Reserve could use as collateral for Federal Reserve notes. This law gave the Federal Reserve the authority to use foreign debt, in addition to U.S. government instruments, as collateral. It is now legally permissible for the British pound and even Mexican bonds to be used as collateral for our Federal Reserve notes. The Monetary Control Act also permitted the storage of Federal Reserve notes for potential use in the future without any collateral whatsoever. Now, a bill has been introduced by the Chairman of the Domestic Monetary Policy Subcommittee which would remove *all* collateral requirements for all Federal Reserve notes. In the long run, this probably doesn't matter, since, at the rate we're creating Federal Reserve notes today, they will be destroyed through the monetization of domestic debt. This year's

Continued on page 8

Finance Report to Colorado Liberty Readers

By Steve Reilly

The following is a financial overview of the COLORADO LIBERTY. We all anticipate every issue of this paper for information and enjoyment. Therefore it is up to us, the readers, to support it.

The cost of typesetting, past up and printing is \$635 per issue — the postage \$150. Part of this cost is offset by \$225 in advertising. Even though many volunteer hours are used (see "Staff Box"), this

still leaves a deficit of \$560 per issue or \$280 per month to the C.L.P.

To all readers who are not members, subscribers or contributors, the cost to the CLP for providing this paper to you is \$6 per year. You can do your share by sending your subscription, membership or contribution today.

TANSTAAFP: there ain't no such thing as a free paper.

LIBERTARIAN PROFILE

Profile: David Snow's Platte River Free School

By Carolyn Phelps

The brochure advertising David Snow's libertarian school says the school is an innovative approach to free learning. I didn't realize just how free this approach was until I visited.

The school is located in an old house in a quiet neighborhood in North Denver. The first thing that struck me as I walked in the door was the total lack of order. There are no desks, few books, and the smell of chalk dust is noticeably absent. Two little girls, about five years old, were running and giggling around the living room, while several other young children were gathered around a table cutting ghosts and pumpkins out of construction paper. An older boy who looked to be about 14 was ambling around the room and a 12 year old girl was playing with some of the younger children. It was hard to tell what was happening upstairs where the sounds of thumping and laughter almost drowned out David's voice as he introduced me to Marilyn Pittman, the other teacher at the school, and a few of the children. David was relaxed as he leaned back on the sofa and smiled at the 14 year old boy who had joined us. Marilyn also didn't seem to let the unstructured environment faze her as she calmly answered questions or admired some work of art presented by the children.

"Kids know what's best for them, as all people do," David said as he observed the activity around him. "Children are no different than adults in terms of knowing what's best for them. Obviously most schools don't believe this. Schools are usually training kids to believe quite the reverse, that only adults know what's best and adults must prepare children to become the 'right' kind of people." He said he thinks this concept of education is completely wrong because children are mani-

where it's ready to happen and they're emotionally and mentally prepared to spend some of their time doing this, but he and Marilyn never suggest it's time they learned to read or write.

How do you two fit in then? Do the children come to you and say, for example, "teach me to read"? "We hope they won't say that," David said. "Mostly we just kinda watch." Marilyn added they help the children with projects if asked but don't initiate projects for the children.

What do you say to a parent who wants to know what little Johnny learned this week? "We don't respond to that question," David said. "We don't believe that's what learning is about. I don't believe education is something fed into kids and kids must receive it and be able to spit back whatever they have learned. That's not learning, that's programming." He went on to say some parents have a hard time accepting this concept and have taken their children out of the school, while other parents may not realize just how free the school is. Even as an anarchist, David said, he sometimes struggles with this concept when dealing with his five year old daughter, Grace. For example, that day Grace didn't want to come to school. David said she wasn't sick and he wanted her to come but, "she's her own person and makes her own decisions." He said he doesn't like to coerce her in any way and once in awhile when he does, out of frustration, he feels bad about it afterwards.

After teaching in a public school for a short time, David said he could tell from the start this was wrong. He taught for the next four years in a private, Catholic school because he thought maybe the private schools would offer more of an option and said they basically do offer more opportunity to try new ideas. He said even

he said. "There's no democracy; no power brokering. One individual has complete and total right to make all his decisions for himself. He doesn't have to give into the group, the teacher, or anyone else and the group in no way is allowed to make decisions for anyone else." In this way, David said, his school is student centered whereas most public and private schools are teacher centered and sometimes parent centered.

David said he has been "tuned into" anarchy since college largely because of the writings of Tolstoi who he said believed that power and wealth are the origin of all social evil. Any government power will strive to maintain the power and wealth

in the hands of the few elite. He includes capitalism among all the "isms" that concentrate power, qualifying this by saying he believes Adam Smith's concept of capitalism was in essence anarchy. He said whatever power is in control wants the hearts and minds of children so they can maintain their power.

David decided about three years ago that anarchy should apply to education as well as to the social structure. He opened the school this fall and as far as I can tell from the couple of hours I was there, his is truly a free school.

What's anarchal education all about? "Teaching kids to be free," said David, still relaxed and still smiling.



David Snow — Relaxing in the Park
"We spend very little time inside the school."

and adults must prepare children to become the "right" kind of people." He said he thinks this concept of education is completely wrong because children are manipulated and worked on until they fit into society. In this way, David explained, "people in power stay in power and people with wealth stay wealthy." The concept of his school is "revisionist" where the children are totally free to come if they want to come and to learn whatever they happen to learn. He doesn't believe anyone should have any type of authority in a child's education except the child, therefore, at his school, there are no rules, no time schedules, no organized, mandatory projects, and no grades or report cards. David said his school is process oriented, not goal oriented, a step beyond traditional education.

Because of the free flowing concept of the school, David said the number of children attending is held at a maximum of 22 students and many of these only come part time. There were 11 students there the day I visited. They work on independent projects such as reading or writing, take several field trips a month, and spend a great deal of time at a nearby library. Everything they do is at their own option. David has a math and science teacher come in once a week who asks the students if they're interested in learning anything in these areas.

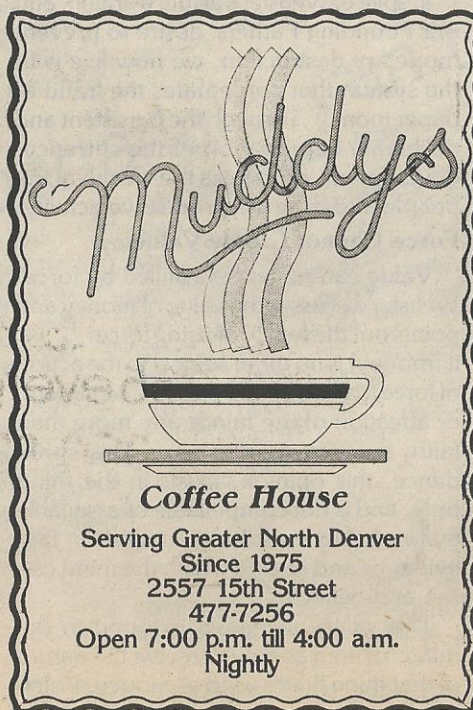
Is there really anyone who wants to learn about math and science? "Not really," David answers with a smile. "They're pretty tuned into that; they know that's not where it's at." He said there is one child who is interested in these subjects and often studies them on his own. "But let's face it, most are smarter than that and realize it's for the birds." Marilyn said some of the younger children are interested in learning to read and write. David thinks they have reached the biological stage

"The Free World" is an odd phrase, since it includes many despotic dictatorships. Perhaps "free" means that these are the countries to which the U.S. gives free weapons.

- Anon

because he thought maybe the private schools would offer more of an option and said they basically do offer more opportunity to try new ideas. He said even though the Catholic schools are tightly structured in some areas, because of church doctrine, they are freer because there is less societal impact. Even though he believes the Catholic schools may be somewhat better than public schools, he thinks they are still "pathological" models. He compared the public schools to prisons saying both are pathological institutions with a custodial concept where children are herded around and locked up. "That's why prisons have drug problems, and that's why schools do, too," he said. "If you evaluate schools and prisons you'll find they share the same problems because they're both pathological institutions."

After reading books by John Holt, Paul Goodman, A.S. Neill, and others who stressed the importance of the individual's capability and right to be in conflict with the group, and after being exposed to the pathological model of education which doesn't work, David designed his school as a "conflict" model. "This is anarchy,"



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David Snow — Relaxing in the Park
"We spend very little time inside the school."

Twilight of the Taxman —

By Pat Commings

Harry's War, with Edward Herrmann, Geraldine Page, and David Ogden Stiers

How's this for a plot line for a movie: Timid mailman goes to the aid of his old friend, a universal-grandmother-type who has fallen afoul of the IRS. She claims deductions for the "private sector" soup kitchen she's been running every Sunday for years, but the nasty tax collector (played by David Ogden Stiers as a sort of meaner, more pompous version of the Back Bay snob he played in *M*A*S*H*) is convinced she has hidden a fortune somewhere in her WWII surplus junkyard. This money he intends to collect for Uncle.

Taxman Stiers has already made political hay of the case, parlaying his image as tough-man tax agent into promotion to the District office. Into this convoluted mess steps Harry (Edward Herrmann), whose very *appearance* suggests rabbit. Harry is certain the IRS will understand if he can just get a chance to explain. Geraldine Page, however, dealing political opinions along with bowls of stew to

the downtrodden poor, is tired of the battle. She simply gives her entire business to Harry; tanks, land mines, gas masks, and all.

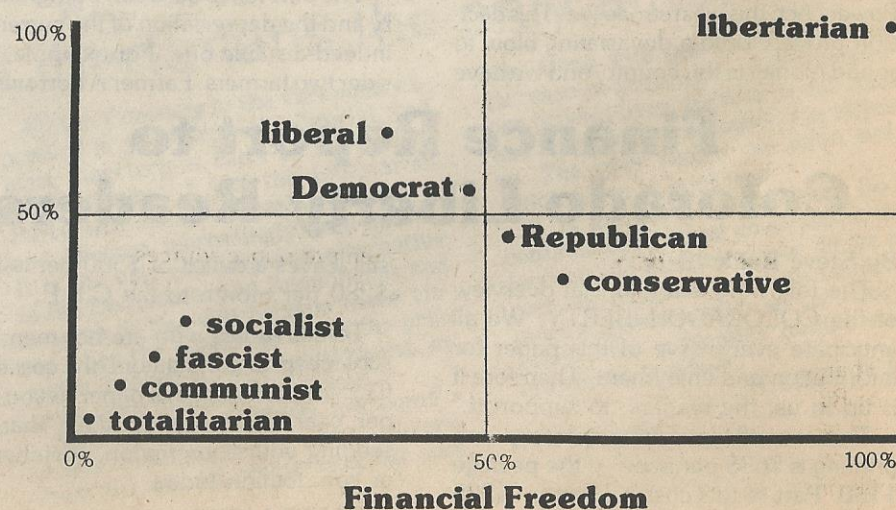
Good thing, too, because the IRS continues its harrassment until Page dies. (Of a heart attack in tax court, very bad publicity!)

This is the last straw for Harry. At last the rabbit is enraged. He declares war on the IRS — and thanks to his late friend's gift, he has the weaponry to do it!

This movie is very stirring, enlightening if a little hammy, and makes its basic points about the IRS' bluff-harrassment-and-theft methods of enforcement. The best word to describe it, perhaps, is *heroic*. Harry the Mailman is an old-fashioned hero, Don Quixote winning against the windmill.

If you don't have cable TV, you will have to wait for video tapes to appear in the shops, or find a friend with a pirate version. Something tells me it'll be a cold day in hell before the networks run this explosive film.

Personal Liberty and Freedom



As Shown Above, Libertarians are Neither "Conservative" or "Liberal"

Libertarian Testifies Before RTD Board

RTD: The Impossible Dream

By Jerry Van Sickle

I'm an architect and builder in Boulder. I ran unsuccessfully for [The RTD] board against Roger Cracraft, so you don't have to accept my advice as the voice of the majority in western Boulder County. I did look deeply into the subject of public transportation then — and later sent each of you excerpts from some of the research I found convincing.

These studies make a powerful case that urban transportation — based on subsidy and monopoly — is an enormous burden on the taxpayer and the economy. In the short run we help a few special interests — mainly downtown businesses and landlords and affluent commuters. The poor and the handicapped are evoked to justify these enormous subsidies, but are the most hurt by regressive sales taxes.

Now that you are debating the expansion of your services, I urge you to weigh carefully the following overview: any public service based on subsidy and monopoly can only give us endless problems and unsolvable dilemmas. This is because artificial prices will inevitably result. And this means that demand will never be satisfied by any level of supply or service. Commuters, businesses, land and building owners are all making crucial personal and financial decisions based on unworkable, unreal expectations. You are creating an impossible dream.

In a parallel example, false energy prices create worldwide crisis, uncertainty, bitter political disagreements, and threaten war itself. Yet all we're dealing with in energy or transportation is relative scarcity — as is true for all other resources on this planet. We humans constantly make choices among all the goods and services we offer each other, based on relative prices and our personal priorities. Our choices include where we'll live and work and how far we'll commute and how much we'll pay to commute. We weigh alternatives and their costs in choosing or avoiding a big city or a small town or rural or mountain living. There should be no overall

ed parking are among many others. They too encourage the squandering of human effort and material resources. For no reason. There are no moral or patriotic virtues in road transportation or rail or buses versus cars versus telecommunications versus working at home. We should let relative costs constantly surface with honest price tags for everything we offer to each other. I'm pleading with you to return to the simplest of all solutions — a free market which allows the greatest abundance and choice for all individuals.

Even if you doubt the basic fairness of free markets, you should still deal separately with the problems of need and poverty. Such a worthy concern should not lead to a waste of human effort and our earth's resources. Besides, subsidized fares inevitably pass through the pockets of riders to businesses and landlords — and are then capitalized in land sales which distort sensible choices among alternative locations. Such windfalls can never be taken back.

If you doubt this reasoning you can still subsidize worthy individuals while letting fares for "The Ride" inform the world of your full costs — including the capital value and depreciation you should charge for your land, buildings and vehicles. You can push for the same approach from your sister public projects — roads in particular.

At this point you may say that some of the interlocking solutions are out of your province. But this is not a reason to add RTD's distortion to an economy which is being wrecked by distortions at every level of government. Every change has to start somewhere.

Instead of enlarging your fleet, you can encourage the PUC to allow private individuals and firms to experiment with every type of taxi, van, jitney, small, medium and large bus, as we see around Stapleton airport — even private light rail. We'll then find out what every conceivable form

"Every man who puts money into the hands of a 'government' (so called), puts into its hands a sword which will be used against himself, to extract more money from him, and also to keep him in subjection to its arbitrary will."

— Lysander Spooner, 1870.

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and how far we'll commute and how much we'll pay to commute. We weigh alternatives and their costs in choosing or avoiding a big city or a small town or rural or mountain living. There should be no overall moral or public priority for high-density or low-density living. We all differ and we should all be free to choose.

Projections about future population in the RTD area and future commuter trips and future traffic congestion all ignore, by their very nature, the adjustments which humans will make if big city living and working gets more expensive than rural or small town living. Individuals and firms will adjust, slowly or rapidly if needed, without public anguish. Denver and Colorado will gain or lose population based upon people's choice of this area compared to all other places to live and work. We have plenty of natural advantages in climate and mountains. We have such disadvantages as water supply and a pollution basin. Therefore Denver should make clear the true costs of water and polluting — and RTD should make clear the true costs of commuting.

We don't really have a problem unless we chose to create one — by sending out false signals — by masking full costs. Admittedly, RTD is not the only public service sending out false signals. Our water costs, our "free" highways and subsidiz-

ed duals and firms to experiment with every type of taxi, van, jitney, small, medium and large bus, as we see around Stapleton airport — even private light rail. We'll then find out what every conceivable form of transportation is really worth in the total equation of human effort and preferences. We'll know who wants to offer the most transportation for the least cost — the most appropriate vehicles where they are wanted the most. Private alternatives can supplement your rush-hour burden. They can feed passengers from all over this sprawling western city to your fixed routes. They may encourage more people to give up their private, flexible automobile. New job options for many firms and individuals — including RTD employees — couldn't come at a better time.

It may be difficult to look at the bigger picture around RTD. Your staff is probably certain that your mission is essential, that more would be better, and that private alternatives would threaten their jobs. But as newly elected representatives you should still be able to recognize real solutions and wise policy for all of your constituents, taxpayers as well as riders. It is not too late to move from endless problems and injustices toward reality in the pricing of public transportation — and the natural solutions that will follow.

From The Library



The Denver Public Library has nothing at all by Spooner. We at least have three of his other books and pamphlets, which points out one of our major purposes: to have materials available to libertarians that aren't at public sources.

Three cheers to BRECK SWORDS, VICTORIA MASON, ROB GILMOR, DAVE TYSON and the ALEXANDER DAWSON SCHOOL for their contributions this month. If you haven't stopped by for awhile, we have many new books and publications. Many duplicates or subjects not suitable for our library are for sale. Keep in mind that we will be closed over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Thanks to articles in COLORADO LIBERTY and other libertarian publications, we are getting many requests about the power of the jury veto. But the classic book on the subject, trial by jury by Ly-sander Spooner isn't in our library. If any of you have a copy, we could sure use one.

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Forced Value

Continued from page 5

deficit will be a quarter of a trillion dollars, and there's no sign that the trend toward ever-increasing deficits will be reversed in the near future.

The problem today is greater than ever before because dollar inflation is worldwide; it is a pervasive and massive game of spiraling inflation. A continuation of the process of bailing out third world and communist bloc nations will cause massive inflation of our own currency. Bailouts virtually guarantee that there will be a serious monetary and banking crisis sometime in this decade. The strength of the dollar relative to other depreciated currencies gives authorities ample room for continued and accelerated monetary growth during the next several years. They may be able to prolong the inevitable, but the longer they delay, the more serious the crisis will be when it finally comes. Pelatiah Webster recognized the significance of the inflation and how much more dangerous it is to continue the process. Concerning inflation based on legal tender acts, he wrote, "The greater the efforts — and the higher the authority which may be exerted in that way — the greater must be the chagrin, shame, and mortification when the baseless fabric shall vanish into smoke." Mr. Webster would surely be mortified if he could see the extent to which we have carried on this inflationary process throughout the world. The policies of the U.S. government, in association with international banking institutions, would shock any of our Founding Fathers beyond belief.

It has been twelve years since the loose link between the dollar and gold was severed. Historically, when there has been no link between the currency and gold, the chaos lasts from 15 to 20 years before the monetary system breaks down and reforms are required. If this holds true, the odds are very good that a major reform of our currency will be required by 1990. The reform need not be difficult nor complex. The economics of stopping the print-

economy flourishes. Ironically, the "law-breakers" in the blackmarket are helping to save the economy from the disaster that would occur if it weren't propped up by the productivity of the fully employed underground economy. However, this cannot persist for long.

When law does not conform to morality, it becomes vicious and abusive. It attacks our privacy, attempts to control our capital markets, and diminishes our liberty with abusive regulations. The technology of the computer age could prove to be a handy tool for those who believe in big government. Internal Revenue Service agents will become more numerous and audits will occur more frequently. The tradition of "voluntary taxation" with the American people participating in the taxing process will no longer exist. The efficiency of the tax collection system will become a government obsession, rather than honesty and integrity in the monetary system.

The bigger the crisis, the more government we can expect to get. It is not unreasonable to anticipate wage and price controls, as well as controls on capital, sometime in the future. Nothing can be settled by using force to make paper money legal tender in order to hide the bad effects of manipulation.

Those who cherish liberty must be prepared for the consequences of the destruction of our monetary system. Having an Administration that advocates limited government and balanced budgets, while giving us bigger government and record deficits, is certainly not the way to gain the confidence of the people. Only honest men and freedom will suffice. A dedicated effort by patriotic leaders is the only thing that can redirect our economy and restore our liberty.

Your Views

Continued from page 3

To: Libertarians in Regions Six
(Colorado & Utah)

Few regions of the national Libertarian

Libertarian Announces Candidacy

Continued from page 1

credit in 1893, when the Feds suddenly cut off their buying program, thus ruining the silver market and turning Aspen into a ghost town.

There is nothing so effective for leveling a society short of saturation bombing. But don't take my word for it: the evidence is in the pictures and exhibits of Colorado's museums. Manipulation of money did that to our communities, and it's disrupting and destroying America's economy again. But we learn from history that we don't learn much from history.

Demopublicans claim to care about people, but their counterfeiting inflation causes human tragedy. It's robbing from the productivity and savings of us, our parents and grandparents. All societies despise people who steal from senior citizens. This election is once again Republicrats offering to help those they have robbed, in exchange for votes . . . and money. Government is a cancer, masquerading as its own cure. Instead of this ancient political power prostitution, libertarians advocate civil liberties and economic freedom.

Common Sense

Common Sense is Florida's oldest (est. 1974) and leading libertarian newsletter and is published 6 times a year at an annual subscription rate of eight dollars per year, for libertarians and other friends of liberty. Sample issue available \$1.00. Please send all correspondence and subscriptions to Common Sense/LPDC, P.O. Box 650051, Miami, Florida 33165.

Hydrology
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Marines in Lebanon

Continued from page 3

to equate pulling out now (before any more Americans die) with "giving in to terrorism." But the Marines **should** be pulled out, not in response to this bombing, but simply because they should never have been there at all, something this incident only underscores — we really should have known better all along.

The incident is really a very instructive microcosm of the dynamics of American interventionist policies. First, the Marines were sent on a classic fool's errand, instructed to "keep the peace" in an area where warring religious factions have steadfastly been refusing to get along for centuries, officially propping up a government that is virtually dead on its feet. They were, however, supposed to do this with their guns routinely unloaded. Even **proponents** of intervention should have opposed this policy, which amounts to asking for needless American deaths. At least one Marine guard on duty is reported to have tried to fire shots to stop the truck-bomb, but couldn't because he couldn't get an ammunition clip into his gun fast enough.

Now that the inevitable has occurred, the administration wrings its hands and sounds tearful in public, but simply urges **more of the same** as a remedy for the situation. It also talks at length about the Soviet troops and/or "advisors" in Syria (whose government may or may not have been involved in the bombing) as a reason not to withdraw, claiming that this would lead to a Syrian/Soviet takeover, which in turn would "require" a new and even larger American military expedition.

Third, the situation has been consistently misrepresented in classic jingoist terms. The voluminous newscasts following the bombing never questioned the legitimacy of American troops being in Lebanon in

of our currency will be required by 1990. The reform need not be difficult nor complex. The economics of stopping the printing of worthless paper money is basic. The political implications, however, are somewhat different. Genuine reform means no more monetization of debt and therefore no creation of money to fund the reckless expenditures which politicians pursue in order to stay in office.

A New Consensus

Political and economic upheaval is a real threat in periods of monetary chaos and during a banking crisis. It is very tempting for governments to divert the people's attention away from the disastrous monetary policies they have pursued by engaging in military conflicts. Or they play on people's fear to gain more power. By building a new consensus in society, we can stem the growth of big government and avoid military adventurism around the globe.

Certainly a financial and banking crisis continues to threaten us. But we now have the controlling votes in both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, so we can practically dictate terms to them. This is, of course, a form of "dollar imperialism." We are literally able to export our inflation throughout the world and not suffer the consequences immediately. However, we risk the desertion of the dollar by nations throughout the world as dollar debts build and the bailouts continue; the system becomes more vulnerable. The time may come when other nations find it advantageous to shift dollars into either hard assets or other currencies.

Pelatih Webster noted that the "worst kind of evil" is when government defrauds its people. This "worst kind of evil" continues to exist as we debase money and enforce our legal tender laws. When the "very seat" where we "ought to look and apply for a remedy" is the perpetrator of the crime, honest men become confused, frustrated and angry. They are torn between obedience to the law and a belief in a moral code which demands honesty. They justifiably vent their anger at the government. Today for instance, fewer and fewer people vote and participate in the political process. The underground

of Libertarians in Regions Six

(Colorado & Utah)

Few regions of the national Libertarian Party have ever been so well represented as is ours now. With Paul Grant as National Chair, Ruth Bennett At-Large Member, and John Mason alternate, Colorado should have no difficulty in making its wishes known on NATCOM. I'd like to personally thank those members of the New York delegation who offered me (and the Libertarian Party of Utah) this extraordinary opportunity to represent our region for the next two years.

I look forward to representing our region and to be active in any way I can in the cause of Liberty. Please feel free to write or call me:

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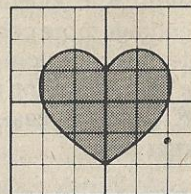
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The voluminous newscasts following the bombing never questioned the legitimacy of American troops being in Lebanon in the first place, but repeatedly referred to the perpetrator as a "terrorist." Suppose, however, that the situation had been reversed. Suppose that America were in a shambles and the army of some foreign power were encamped at Dulles airport in Washington. Would a suicide mission to drive them out be "terrorism" then? On the contrary, one suspects that it is precisely those who are now clamoring most loudly for greater American involvement in the Middle East who would be most likely both to plan such an escapade, and to laud the suicide driver after the fact as a "hero" and a "patriot." And they would very likely be right. Rather than being "brutal and cowardly," as a U.S. Senate resolution passed the next day claims, such actions rather represent the lengths, and courage, to which people will go to expel a foreign invader from their homeland — a point consistently overlooked by those proposing a return to military conscription aimed at facilitating the sending of even more American troops to places like Lebanon.

The bottom line is that the American troops don't have, and never did have, any legitimate reason for being in Lebanon, and it should come as no surprise that someone in Lebanon resented their being there enough to kill and die to get them out. Despite the political rhetoric, America has no legitimate "interests" there that require the backing of military forces. But the administration worked hard to send them there so 230 of them could get killed. Just as the Vietnam war escalated after American "advisers" started getting killed, the unfortunately likely result of this incident will be escalation of the American military presence in the Middle East. That is where this type of foreign policy always leads; that is where it is **supposed** to lead. President Reagan said he "couldn't find words" to express his sorrow over the American deaths in Beirut. We can. His policies insured those deaths. The right words to utter are: Bring them home — NOW.